

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00677 092020Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----100542Z 091345 /17

R 091920Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2679
INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0677

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, US, SF, UK, FR, TZ
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL: CHAPTER VII

1. FOLLOWING ARE SOME ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS FOR DEPARTMENT'S
CONSIDERATION AFFECTING POSSIBLE CHAPTER VII DETERMINATION:

2. WHILE TANZANIAN PERM REP SALIM INITIALLY WAS FAVORABLE
CONCERNING PREPARATION OF AN SC "DECLARATION" AGAINST
APARTHEID, HE LATER INDICATED TO US PRIVATELY THAT INCLUSION
OF A CHAPTER VII DETERMINATION IN SUCH A DECLARATION NEVERTHE-
LESS WAS A SINE QUA NON FOR AFRICANS HERE.

3. BRITISH HAVE MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO US HERE AS WELL
CONCERNING THEIR OPPOSITION TO APPLYING CHAPTER VII TO SOUTH
AFRICA. THEY BASE THEIR OBJECTIONS UPON: A) ECONOMIC
REASONS, AND B) THE BELIEF THAT APPLYING CHAPTER VII TO SOUTH
AFRICA WOULD ELIMINATE ANY DESIRE ON VORSTER'S PART TO IN-
FLUENCE SMITH CONCERNING RHODESIA. BRITISH TELL US THAT THEY
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COULD FORESEE AN APARTHEID DEBATE IN WHICH TWO RESOLU-
TIONS WOULD BE TABLED, ONE CALLING FOR A CHAPTER VII
MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO, WHICH THEY WOULD VETO, AND THE
OTHER A CHAPTER VI "SWEDISH PROPOSAL", WHICH THEY WOULD
ACCEPT. BRITISH NEVERTHELESS ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THEIR FINAL
DECISION ON CHAPTER VII WOULD "GO DOWN TO THE WIRE"
WERE US TO INDICATE THAT IT COULD ACCEPT A CHAPTER VII

MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO. WE HAVE SPOKEN VERY INFORMALLY WITH THEM ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE US SPLITTING WITH THE UK, WITH SUCH A SPLIT WELL KNOWN TO BOTH PARTIES FAR IN ADVANCE OF THE VOTE. THE BRITISH HERE FEEL THAT LONDON WOULD MUCH PREFER A UNITED FRONT BUT BELIEVE THAT SUCH A SPLIT COULD BE CONSIDERED AMONG ALTERNATIVES IN CURRENT THINKING.

4. WHEN BRITISH ARGUED TO US THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO CONSIDER CHAPTER VII DETERMINATION IN MAY, RATHER THAN NOW (AS DO FRENCH -- USUN 649), WE ASKED WHETHER IN FACT THIS WOULD BE PREFERABLE, I.E., SHOULD VORSTER PUSH SMITH ALONG ON RHODESIA, BUT THERE BE NO CHANGE ON NAMIBIA BY THAT TIME, WOULD HMG NOT BE LOATHE TO APPLY CHAPTER VII TO SOUTH AFRICA AND THEREBY AROUSE VORSTER'S ANGER OVER BEING "STABBED IN THE BACK"? BRITISH ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS INDEED WOULD BE THE CASE AND THAT IN THAT SITUATION, LONDON WOULD NOT BE ANY MORE LIKELY TO FAVOR CHAPTER VII IN MAY THAN IT DOES IN MARCH.

5. MAURITIAN PERMREP RAMPHUL INSISTS THAT ANY DRAFT RESOLUTION CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICA WILL INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO A "STATE OF WAR" EXISTING THERE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: APARTHEID, UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN00677
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770082-0014
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770375/aaaacopc.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e7bdd1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3156120
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY COUNCIL: CHAPTER VII
TAGS: PFOR, US, SF, UK, FR, TZ, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e7bdd1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009